



**Sustainable Arlington**  
**A committee of Envision Arlington's Environmental Task Group**

**Minutes**

Date: Wednesday, May 16, 2018

Time: 7:30 – 9:00 pm

Location: Arlington Town Hall Annex, 1<sup>st</sup> floor conference room

Present: Ryan Katofsky, David Landskov, Gail McCormick, Amos Meeks, Brucie Moulton, Monique Ouimette

**Greetings and Introductions**

Arlington's community electricity program, Community Choice Aggregation (CCA), reaches its first anniversary on August 1, 2018. Mothers Out Front is discussing how to celebrate this milestone. It was agreed that this is a good collaboration opportunity for Sustainable Arlington and MOF.

Since August 1, 2017, about 450 Arlington households have opted up to either 50% or 100% local renewable energy through CCA. Mothers Out Front has set a goal of another 150 this year. Ryan Katofsky believes we should aim for a much higher number, approximately 10% of Arlington 19,500 households, and recommended applying the Solarize Arlington model to the continuing CCA opt-up campaign. He noted that multiple outreach methods were used and will share his "Solarize roadmaps to help this move forward.

The 2018 data from the Vision 2020 survey questions about CCA shows that a large percentage of residents who have not opted up do not understand the CCA program. Ryan suggests focusing on this group with increased educational materials and outreach.

After discussion of the Emerald Ash Borer threat and the June 5 EAB spotter training to be held at Town Hall, it was agreed that Sustainable Arlington would participate in an ash tree tagging event if the Arlington Tree Committee and Tree Warden decide to do this. This idea follows up on a discussion at our February meeting about ways to bring Arlington environmental groups together.

100% Renewables Resolution, continued discussion. Ryan Katofsky noted that Arlington has joined the Mayors' Coalition as the 15<sup>th</sup> member. This metro area group of communities has a target of being carbon neutral by 2050, which will require 100% renewable energy. He also of raising the RPS (Renewable Portfolio Standard) from 2% to 3%.

It was agreed that we should propose to the Town Manager's Energy Working Group that the Town adopt a non-binding resolution to move to 100% renewable energy.

Co-chair Amos Meeks wrote the Sustainable Arlington letter of support for the next stage of the Town's involvement in the MVP program. On June 4, there will be an AHS building forum and on June 11, the MVP forum.

Announcements. The Arlington Public Schools received a Green Ribbon Award at a State House event, one of two school systems in the Massachusetts.

Thursday, June 21, Plastic Bag ban event at Robbins Library.

Envision Arlington (was Vision 2020) is developing a new logo to go with the name change.

As part of Vision 2020 updates, we began a review of the Sustainable Arlington vision statement and agreed some change is desirable.

Adjourned at 9 pm

Submitted by Brucie Moulton